Opening of counter insurgency schools

569. SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE
SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme to open a number of counter insurgency schools in the country by the Army Training Command (ARTRAC) in view of the increasing insurgency in different parts of the country; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Need for establishing another counter insurgency school is being evaluated.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

Shortage of Pilots in IAF

570. SHRI TRILOKI NATH CHATURVEDI:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian Air Force is running short of pilots; if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(b) what steps have been taken to deal with the situation?

THE MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) The IAF is short of Pilots. The shortfall has occured over a period of time, largely due to a declining trend in intake. The intake has now improved. The IAF has a very stringent selection procedure including high medical standards.

(b) A vigorous publicity drive is being carried out to make the prospective candidates (School/College students) aware of the attractions of the Flying Branch of AF as a career. Approximately 3000 School/Colleges are on the regular mailing list of AF for sending publicity material/pamphlets etc. Some documentary films on IAF have also been telecast on Doordarshan.

Policies of Canteen Stores Deptt.

571. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have reviewed the policies of Canteen Stores Deptt., which have been operating in favour of large and "national repute" firms;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to improve the functioning of Canteen Stores Deptt.?

THE MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b) The Canteen Stores Department (CSD) does not favour any firm whether large or small. The introduction of any product in CSD is based on a common assessment procedure with reference to market survey, pricing etc. and its continuance in CSD depends mainly upon its demand from the clients of CSD and is irrespective of the reputation or size of the suppliers/manufacturers.

(c) The functioning of the Canteen Stores Department is regularly reviewed by the Government and efforts continuously made to improve productivity, sales performance, efficiency and customer responsiveness.

Supply of Advanced Jet Trainers in IAF

572. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present status of the supply of Advanced Jet Trainers to the Indian Air Force; and

(b) when was the demand for such Trainers made by the Indian Air Force?

THE MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Proposals for acquisition of Advanced Jet Trainer, have been obtained from short-listed vendors. These proposals have been scrutinised from the technical angle.

(b) The Indian Air Force had initially projected the demand for Advanced Jet Trainer in October, 1985. However, the procurement of Advanced Jet Trainer was deferred at that time.

Special Army Memorandum on Human Rights

573. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have published or